

UPDATE

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Many articles have appeared recently in the local newspapers dealing with the growth and future of the Hospital Center. The Board of Directors, Administration, and Medical Staff have been involved in discussions to more effectively coordinate our community's health care system. In fact, the primary purpose of the Arthur D. Little study done for the Dorothy Rider Pool Health Care Trust which appeared in the Sunday, January 22, Call-Chronicle was to focus on the present and future needs of our community's health care system. It is only natural, then, that the A.D. Little study and subsequent discussions would address governing structures, including ours.

Please be assured, however, that we are committed not to interfere with the goals and objectives of this hospital nor to adversely affect Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospital Center employees in any way. Our first priority is and will be high quality care and concern for our patients.

I am proud and thankful that such discussions have not interfered with this priority and am certain it will not. I ask for your continued support and understanding during these deliberations.

If you have a particular concern or question, please feel free to ask your Department Head.


Ellwyn P. Spiker
Administrator

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BOARD CHANGES APPROVED

THE HOSPITAL CENTER'S Board of Directors has approved a motion to add six new Directors to the Board and thereby increase its size from 10 to 16 members. Morton Schneider, Board President, explained that this decision, reached after a culmination of many months of discussion among all parties concerned, will increase the number of members in both the Allentown and Sacred Heart Classes by 3 people. Two of the additional members will be chosen by the Allentown Class and 2 by the Sacred Heart Class of Directors. The additional 2 Board members will be members of the Center's Medical Staff representing each of the 2 classes.

Mr. Schneider also stated that in conjunction with these changes, the settlement agreement which elucidates the relationship between the three hospitals will also be amended. He explained that at the present time, the agreement requires that the President of both Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospitals be members of the Center's Board. However, in recent governance changes, both hospitals changed the titles of their Administrators to President, and their Presidents to Chairman of the Board. The new agreement will mandate that the Chairman of the Board be a member of our Board, thus removing the Presidents as mandatory members. The change in the settlement agreement must be endorsed by all participants including the Allentown Hospital Association, Sacred Heart Hospital, the Hospital Center, and Bishop McShea, for the Diocese of Allentown.

Both revisions will be ratified by the membership of the Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospital Center Corporation which includes the total membership of the Boards of Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospitals.

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NO SMOKING, PLEASE

THE APPROVAL OF A NO SMOKING POLICY by the Hospital Center's Board of Directors means "No Butts" for smokers, except in particular areas and circumstances.

Patients who cannot be persuaded to abstain from smoking may do so in their rooms and only with the written consent of their physician.

Visitors may smoke only in the hospital lobby, cafeteria, and the ICU and ER waiting rooms.

Medical Staff and Hospital employees are expected to provide a good example to patients and community by observing the No Smoking Policy. Smoking will be allowed in lounges, locker rooms, cafeteria, conference rooms, and the designated area of the auditorium.

Smoking in offices and non-public work areas will be determined by the occupant or by the appropriate department head.

CREDIT UNION NEWS

THE ALLENTOWN AND SACRED HEART HOSPITAL CENTER Federal Credit Union will have an annual meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 1978, at 2:00 P.M., in the Hospital Center auditorium.

All members are encouraged to attend and vote for seven members of the Board and five Credit Committee members.

CAFETERIA CHANGES

WHILE WORK CONTINUES ON REPLACING THE KITCHEN FLOOR with a non-skid tile, Gerald Miller, Director of Food Services, has announced that a second serving line will be added to the Dining Room.

Construction should take two weeks and will not interfere with peak meal times. The new line will contain cold sandwiches, salads, desserts, and an additional beverage section. The serving line, strictly self-service, is expected to ease the flow of traffic in the dining room.

The new kitchen floor, made of quarry tile containing metal chips, should be completed in two weeks.

NEW GROUP ELECTS

EDWARD H. ROBINSON, Business Office Manager, was unanimously elected Chairman of the "Lehigh Valley Blue Cross/Hospital Business Office Managers Users Group."

The newly formed group, which had its first meeting in January, is comprised of representatives from 10 area hospitals whose purpose is to discuss business related problems in hospitals.

Monthly meetings are planned for the future.

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THE BIG SNOW

ALL OF US BY THIS TIME have probably lost all the thrill of seeing those first white flakes fall and in fact can hardly wait for the piles of dingy white snow and ice to disappear!!

During the big snow storm, January 19, 20, ... a lot of people here at the Hospital put in a weekend so to speak covering for the many of us who couldn't get out of our homes much less onto a passable road! Our thanks to those who kept everything running smoothly, many of whom spent at least one night or shift slumbering on the 7th floor.

• A rumor has it that SPD has never had such a high demand for blankets and pillows!

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